

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A messaging system having integrated therewith a message notification means, said message notification means comprising:

memory means for storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

means for determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared, the means for determining being further operable to determine that one or more of the messages is new but has an associated notification that has been cleared;

a user interface for providing to a user a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

2. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of selecting a functionality associated with a plurality of options presented to the user.

3. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 2 wherein said plurality of options is presented visually by a plurality of buttons.

4. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said messaging system is a unified messaging system.
5. (Previously Presented) A messaging system according to claim 4 further comprising a filtering means for enabling said user to select which types of messages are to be included in said list.
6. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 5 wherein said user interface is a graphical user interface and wherein different icons are displayed beside different types of messages in said list.
7. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of clearing said particular notification.
8. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said manipulation consists of clearing all notifications in said list.
9. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 2 wherein said functionality is selected from the group of: clear item, clear all, call sender, open, open messaging application, and print.

10. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 9 wherein said open messaging application functionality launches a messaging application associated with said messaging system.

11. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 9 wherein said call sender functionality replies to the sender of the selected message notification without retrieving the message itself.

12. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said integrated message notification means may be launched from within a messaging application associated with said messaging system.

13. (Original) A messaging system according to claim 1 wherein said integrated message notification means is designated as a particular view within a messaging application associated with said messaging system.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of enhancing a messaging system, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification application integrated with a messaging application of said messaging system;

storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared, and further determining whether one or more of the messages is new but has an associated notification that has been cleared;

presenting, to a user by said message notification means, a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

15. (Currently Amended) A message notification means for use with one or more messaging systems, said message notification means comprising:

polling means for polling said one or more messaging systems for new messages;

memory means for storing message status information for messages in said one or more messaging systems, said message status information comprising a message notification variable for each message, said variable comprising information for determining whether a notification has been cleared;

determining means for the means for determining which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared, the determining means being further operable to determine that one or more of the messages is new but has an associated notification that has been cleared;

a user interface for providing to a user a list of message notifications associated with only those messages that are new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

16. (Previously Presented) A message notification means according to claim 15 wherein said variable comprises information relating to date, time and sequence of each message.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of providing message notifications to a user, said user having access to one or more messaging systems, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification means for use with said one or more messaging systems;

polling said one or more messaging systems, by said message notification means, for new messages;

storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared, and further determining whether one or more of the messages is new but has an associated notification that has been cleared;

presenting, to a user by said message notification means, a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

18. (Currently Amended) A message notification means for use with one or more messaging systems, said message notification means comprising:

receiving means for receiving indications from said one or more messaging systems regarding the presence of new messages therein;

memory means for storing message status information for each message in said messaging system;

means for determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared, the means for determining being further operable to determine that one or more of the messages is new but has an associated notification that has been cleared;

a user interface for providing to a user a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared;

said message notification means permitting the user to select a particular notification from said list for manipulation.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of providing message notifications to a user, said user having access to one or more messaging systems, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a message notification means for use with said one or more messaging systems;

receiving, at a receiving means within said message notification means, indications from said one or more messaging systems regarding the presence of new messages therein;

storing message status information for messages in said messaging system;

determining from the stored message status information which messages in said messaging system are new and for which a notification has not been cleared, and further determining whether one or more of the messages is new but has an associated notification that has been cleared;

presenting, to a user by said message notification means, a list of message notifications associated with only those messages determined to be new and for which a notification has not been cleared via a user interface; and

permitting said user to select a particular message notification from said list for manipulation.

20. (Previously Presented) A message notification means according to claim 15 further comprising:

means for enabling said user to select which types of messages are to be included in the notification list.